

Japanese Immigration

AN EXPOSITION OF ITS REAL STATUS

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1907
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PREPARED AND PUBLISHED BY
The Japanese Association of the Pacific Northwest
Seattle, Washington, 1907



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LETTERS OF ENDORSEMENT

In presenting this pamphlet to the public, the Japanese Association of the Pacific Northwest, which is responsible for its publication, has the honor to call particular attention to the following two letters addressed to this Association by the Seattle Chamber of Commerce and the Tacoma Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade, respectively, endorsing the statements contained in this publication:

LETTER FROM THE SEATTLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Seattle, Washington, Nov. 20th, 1907.

Hon. C. T. Takahashi,
President Japanese Association,
Seattle, Wash.

Dear Sir:

I have to advise you that the officers of this Chamber have examined the contents of the paper entitled "'Japanese Immigration: An Exposition of Its Real Status,'" and take pleasure in informing you that, in our judgment, its contents are a fair and accurate exposition of conditions as they exist on the Pacific Coast.

I.

II.

the resolutions that were adopted by our board on April 29th, 1907.

We would be pleased, when you have this matter in book form, to have a few of them for our organization so we may give our members as a whole the benefit of your findings.

Very truly yours,

(Signed.

William Jones
President

*See Appendix II, pp. 38-40.

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Japanese Immigration

AN EXPOSITION OF ITS REAL STATUS

INTRODUCTION.

1. *Object of This Pamphlet.*

In view of the fact that the exclusion of Japanese immigrants seems to be seriously considered in certain quarters in this country, the Japanese Association of the Pacific Northwest has deemed it proper to make a special investigation into the real status of Japanese immigration, with a view to submitting its result to those directly concerned with the solution of this question. This course has seemed the more advisable because the question of Japanese immigration has been talked about but indiscriminately. The purpose of this pamphlet, therefore, is to set forth as plainly as possible facts and statistics relative to Japanese immigration.

* * * * *

2. *Scope of This Pamphlet.*

In order to make our statement as clear as possible, this pamphlet is divided into five parts, each part being subdivided into several items. They are as follows:

Part I. Extent of Japanese Immigration.

1. Yearly totals of Japanese immigrants.
2. Volume of Japanese immigration compared with that of European peoples.

Part II. Destinations of Japanese Immigrants.

Part III. Nature of Japanese Immigration.

1. What classes Japanese immigrants come from.
2. Financial condition of Japanese immigrants.
3. Japanese immigrants classified by age.
4. Educational condition of Japanese immigrants.

Part IV. Economic Questions Attendant Upon Japanese Immigration.

1. Effect of Japanese immigration upon the wages of American laborers.
2. Effect of Japanese immigration upon the mercantile business of the Pacific Coast.
3. Shortage of labor on the Pacific Coast.

Part V. Are Japanese Immigrants Unassimilable?

* * * * *

3. *Source of Information.*

In preparing this pamphlet, the following documents formed the principal source of information.

1. Annual report of the Commissioner General of Immigration.
2. Monthly Summary of Commerce and Finance, Bureau of Statistics, Treasury Department.

3. Annual Report of the Department of Commerce and Labor.
4. Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of California.
5. Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of Oregon.
6. Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labor, of Washington.
7. Consular Report of the Foreign Department of Japan.

Part I.

EXTENT OF JAPANESE IMMIGRATION.

1. Yearly Totals of Japanese Immigrants.

Japanese immigration into America may be said to have begun in 1866, when there were six immigrants from Japan. In the following table the yearly totals of Japanese immigrants since 1866 are compared with those of European immigrants:

	No. European Immi- grants.	No. Japanese Immi- grants.		No. European Immi- grants.	No. Japanese Immi- grants.
1866	278,916	7	1887	482,829	229
1867	283,751	67	1888	538,131	404
1868	130,090	..	1889	434,790	640
1869	315,963	63	1890	445,680	691
1870	328,626	48	1891	546,085	1,136
1871	265,145	78	1892	608,472	1,498
1872	352,155	17	1893	488,882	1,648
1873	397,541	9	1894	303,150	1,739
1874	262,783	21	1895	271,223	489
1875	182,961	3	1896	329,067	1,110
1876	120,920	4	1897	216,397	1,526
1877	106,195	7	1898	217,786	2,230
1878	101,612	2	1899	297,349	2,844
1879	134,259	4	1900	424,700	12,635
1880	348,691	4	1901	469,237	5,269
1881	528,545	11	1902	619,068	14,270
1882	648,186	5	1903	814,507	19,968
1883	522,587	27	1904	767,933	14,264
1884	453,686	20	1905	974,273	10,331
1885	353,083	49	1906	1,018,365	13,835
1886	329,529	194			

The sudden increase of Japanese immigrants in 1900 is due to the fact that in that year Japanese immigrants to Hawaii was for the first time included in the immigration statistics of the United States, the annexation of the

Sandwich Islands having taken place in 1898. Since 1900 by far the largest portion of Japanese immigrants came to Hawaii. The following table will show the apportionment of Japanese immigrants between Hawaii and the mainland of the United States for the past five years:

Year.	Hawaii.	Mainland.	Total.
1902.....	9,125	5,330	14,455
1903.....	13,045	6,996	20,041
1904.....	6,590	7,792	14,382
1905.....	6,692	4,329	11,021
1906.....	9,051	4,192	14,243

It must be considered that a considerable number of Japanese immigrants yearly return to their native country. This number should be deducted from the totals of Japanese immigrants shown in the above table. Unfortunately, no accurate figures for these departing Japanese are yet obtainable. The Bureau of Immigration however, classifies immigrants into newcomers and those who have been in this country before, the latter class of which might well be regarded as those going back home. According to this source of information, the yearly departures among Japanese immigrants during the past four years are as follows:

Year.	Departure.
1903.....	1,365
1904.....	1,890
1905.....	1,515
1906.....	1,531

It must be conceded that these figures are considerably smaller than the actual number of yearly departures among the Japanese. This is evident from the reports of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of California. According to these reports, the single port of San Francisco registered, in the year ended September 30, 1904, the depar-

ture of 2,447 Japanese as against 1,426 arrivals from Japan, making a decrease of 1,021 in the Japanese population of California. In the succeeding year the same port recorded 2,022 departing Japanese as against 1,224 arriving Japanese, resulting in a decrease of 798 in the number of Japanese in California. It is to be regretted that we are unable to pursue our investigation along this line in regard to other states, owing to the fact that California is the only state which takes record of departures of alien immigrants.

* * * * *

2. *Volume of Japanese Immigration, Compared with that of European Peoples.*

We can comprehend the extent of Japanese immigration more clearly by comparing it with that from those European countries which furnish this country with most immigrants. This comparison will be best shown in the following table:

	1891—1900.		1901—1905		1906.	
	No. Immigrants.	Per Cent.	No. Immigrants.	Per Cent.	No. Immigrants.	Per Cent.
Japan	24,806	.67	64,102	1.7	13,835	1.3
Austria-Hungary	592,707	16.	944,239	25.	265,138	24.
Germany	505,152	14.	176,995	4.6	37,564	3.4
Italy	651,893	18.	959,768	25.	273,120	25.
Russia	505,290	14.	658,735	17.	215,665	20.
Ireland	388,416	10.	184,095	4.8	34,995	3.2
Sweden	226,266	6.	154,607	4.	23,310	2.
Norway	95,014	2.6	103,065	2.7	21,730	2.
Greece	15,979	.43	49,962	1.3	19,489	1.8

From this table we learn that in the decade from 1891 to 1900 Japanese immigration was so insignificant that it admits of no comparison with that from European countries. In the five years following, Japanese immi-

grants numbered, roughly speaking, only one to twenty-five compared with Austria-Hungarian immigrants; one to twenty-five compared with Italians; one to seventeen compared with Russians. Again, in the year 1906 Japanese immigration amounted to one twenty-fourth of Austria-Hungarian immigrants, one twenty-fifth of Italian immigrants, one eighteenth of Russian immigrants, and one third of Irish and German immigrants.

The number of Japanese immigrants is not increasing, as has been reported in the newspapers. Their figures for 1901 were smaller than half their total for the preceding year; then there was an increase for two years, then a falling off for two years, then a slight increase last year. The increase of Japanese immigrants for 1906 over those for 1905 was 3,504, but this increase sinks into insignificance when compared with other principal increases. This comparison is shown in the following table:

Country.	Increase, 1905-1906.
Japan	3,504
Italy	51,641
Russia	30,768
Greece	8,974
Turkey	4,068

Part II.

DESTINATIONS OF JAPANESE IMMIGRANTS.

It is a recognized fact that the Japanese government is, as it always has been, endeavoring to restrict as much as possible the number of passports for those laborers intending to come to the mainland of the United States. Hence, more than one-half of Japanese immigrants have been destined to Hawaii, the United States proper having received a comparatively small number of immigrants from Japan. In order to show their distribution among Hawaii and the different states in the mainland, the following table is prepared:

YEAR.	Hawaii.	California.	Oregon.	Washington.	Other States.	Total.
1902	9,125	2,518	130	2,419	263	14,455
1903	13,045	4,511	329	1,820	336	20,041
1904	6,590	4,003	318	2,446	1,025	14,382
1905	6,692	2,022	279	1,200	828	11,021
1906	9,051	2,068	398	1,619	1,107	14,243

The significance of Japanese immigration to the Pacific Coast will be understood more clearly, when the proportion of the Japanese to the European immigrants

coming to that section is ascertained. We observe that the tendency on the Pacific Coast is, comparatively speaking, toward increasing the European population and decreasing the Japanese. In 1903 the proportion of the Japanese to the European immigrants for the three states on the Pacific Coast was 3 to 11.3; in 1904, 3 to 12.5; in 1905, 3 to 20.3, and in 1906 3 to 19.1. The following table gives the exact figures showing this proportion:

Year.	Washington.			Oregon.			California.		
	European Immigrants.	Japanese Immigrants.	No. Europeans to One Japanese.	European Immigrants.	Japanese Immigrants.	No. Europeans to One Japanese.	European Immigrants.	Japanese Immigrants.	No. Europeans to One Japanese.
1903	5,035	1,820	2.7	1,595	329	4.8	17,348	4,511	3.8
1904	5,780	2,446	2.3	1,754	318	5.5	19,163	4,003	4.7
1905	7,317	1,200	6.	1,620	279	5.8	17,293	2,022	8.5
1906	8,849	1,619	5.4	2,151	398	5.4	17,286	2,068	8.3

The destinations of Japanese immigrants given in the immigration statistics of the United States are merely those professed by individual immigrants upon their arrival to these shores. Hence their actual destinations are frequently different from those recorded by the immigration officials. As a matter of fact, the Japanese immigrants are more widely scattered over different parts of this country than the report of the Commissioner-General of Immigration shows them to be.

Unfortunately, statistical data in respect to the actual destinations of Japanese immigrants are not adequate.

Of the official documents of the United States, the census of 1900 is the only source of information on this point, but it is at this moment entirely out of date. Perhaps the latest and best available statistics in this respect are found in the annual census of the Japanese consuls in America for the year 1906. The Foreign Department of Japan divides the United States into four consular districts:

1. The Seattle district, comprising Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana.

2. The San Francisco district, comprising California, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, Arizona and Utah.

3. The Chicago district, comprising Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Wisconsin, Michigan, Nebraska, the Dakotas, Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Ohio, Kentucky, Mississippi and Alabama.

4. The New York district, comprising the rest of the United States.

Now, according to the said consular census, there were, at the end of 1905, 49,598 Japanese in the United States proper. Distributing this among the four consular districts, we obtain the figures in the following table:

Consular District.	No. of Japanese.
New York District.....	2,456
Chicago District	1,860
San Francisco District.....	31,092
Seattle District	14,190

This shows that the Japanese population in this country is widely scattered, not only along the entire Pacific Coast, but in other parts of the States. The most powerful argument against Chinese immigration previous to the enactment of the Chinese exclusion law in 1882 was that

they, flocking to the single state of California, were likely to jeopardize the growth and occupancy of that state by Americans. The Chinese immigrants from 1854 to 1882, inclusive, totaled 139,455, the overwhelming majority of which came to and remained in California. In view of the fact that in the seventies of the past century, when agitation for Chinese exclusion was begun, the state of California had a population of only 560,000, *including* Negroes, Indians and Chinese, the apprehension that the Chinese might hinder the wholesome development of the white community in that state was not without ground. But the conditions on the Pacific Coast have since radically changed, while other circumstances attendant upon Japanese immigration are widely different from those accompanying Chinese immigration. In 1900 the white population of California (*excluding* Negroes, Indians, Chinese and Japanese) increased to 1,402,727. In 1870 the population of Oregon was only 90,923, and that of Washington only 23,955, both *including* Negroes, Indians and Chinese; but the census of 1900 estimates the population of Oregon at 394,582, and that of Washington at 496,304, both *excluding* Negroes, Indians, Chinese and Japanese. It is needless to say that during the seven years following the taking of the last census the white population on the Pacific Coast has increased even more rapidly than in the years preceding. And the increase in the white population is merely one of many factors which solidify the American community on the Pacific Coast. It may, therefore, well be asked whether the argument advanced against Chinese immigration can reasonably be applied to the Japanese immigration of today.

Part III.

NATURE OF JAPANESE IMMIGRATION.

1. *What Classes Japanese Immigrants Come From.*

A study of the reports of the Commissioner-General of Immigration will reveal the fact that the Japanese immigrants are not necessarily recruited from among the lowest classes of laborers. To call them "coolies" without discrimination is not to render them justice. During the eight years from 1899 to 1906, inclusive, the classification of Japanese immigrants by occupation is as shown in the following table:

YEAR.	Professional	Skilled.	Farmers.	Farm Laborers.	Laborers.	Merchants.	Servants.	*Miscellaneous.	§No Occupation.
1899	92	121	828	854	203	601	53	84	559
1900	563	1,793	2,521	3,855	1,977	797	223	192	707
1901	167	603	897	1,153	830	652	181	181	585
1902	222	1,047	5,212	451	1,558	1,205	173	199	4,388
1903	274	922	5,010	5,816	572	1,442	132	591	5,282
1904	373	641	121	6,775	1,474	1,184	317	253	3,244
1905	280	358	380	5,883	743	777	207	181	2,219
1906	256	329	522	8,435	835	632	195	593	2,446

*This consists of agents, bankers, hotel keepers, manufacturers and fishermen.

§This includes women and children under 14 years.

The meaning of the above table will be understood more fully when the figures for each occupation are reduced to percentage of total Japanese immigrants and compared with the figures representing each occupation of European immigrants, likewise rendered into percentage. For this purpose the following table is prepared comparing the Japanese immigrants for 1906 with those from several European countries:

People or Race.	Professional.	Skilled.	Farmers.	Farm Laborers.	Laborers.	Merchants.	Servants.
Japanese	1.79	2.16	3.66	59.22	5.86	4.43	1.36
Italian (South) .....	.32	12.63	.37	30.58	29.41	.89	4.50
Italian (North)	1.13	11.15	3.25	11.08	37.94	1.24	6.82
Irish ..	1.47	11.56	2.44	5.36	24.8	.79	36.6
Hebrew ..	.71	33.26	.1	1.11	5.44	2.27	6.39
German ..	2.7	18.86	2.17	14.17	7.58	3.34	13.58
Polish .....	.19	6.19	.79	33.64	23.35	.09	16.3
Slovak .....	.07	3.79	1.41	46.17	12.31	.04	14.4
Scandinavian ..	1.45	19.11	2.42	6.45	25.82	.52	24.02

From the foregoing two tables it will be seen that the majority of Japanese immigrants are farmers and farm laborers who, in this country, are generally regarded as more desirable than common laborers. Common laborers, who are apt to crowd in the city, form a very small portion of Japanese immigrants, viz., only 5.86 per cent, as against 29 per cent from South Italy, 37 per cent from North Italy, 24 per cent from Ireland, 23 per cent from Poland and 25 per cent from Scandinavia. With the exception of Germany, Japan furnished the largest percentage of professional men. In examining these statistics it is necessary to remember that the figures given in them include those from Hawaii, which form by far the great-

est portion of Japanese immigration. The overwhelming majority of Japanese laborers given in the above table came to the Hawaiian group, and not to the mainland of this country.

* * * * *

2. *Financial Condition of Japanese Immigrants.*

It is worthy of note that the per capita of money shown by Japanese immigrants is smaller only than that produced by English and German immigrants. In the fiscal year 1905, the average amount of money brought by English and German immigrants was \$57.65 and \$43.72 per capita, respectively, while Japanese immigrants brought \$37.78 each. In 1906 English immigrants brought \$57.90 per capita, Germans \$40.87, and Japanese \$31.09.

In the following table we present a comparison of the per capita of money shown by Japanese immigrants with that produced by immigrants from various European countries in the two fiscal years 1905 and 1906:

Race or People.	1905.			1906.		
	No. Immigrants.	Total Amount Money Shown.	Per Capita.	No. Immigrants.	Total Amount Money Shown.	Per Capita.
Japanese	11,021	416,395	37.78	14,243	442,909	31.09
Italian (South)	186,390	3,127,207	16.77	240,528	3,637,787	10.96
Italian (North)	39,930	1,169,980	26.79	46,286	1,237,404	26.73
Irish ..	54,266	1,421,682	26.19	40,959	1,082,332	26.42
Hebrew ..	129,910	1,824,617	14.04	153,748	2,362,125	15.36
Polish ..	102,437	1,352,230	13.20	95,835	1,103,955	11.51
Scandinavian ..	62,284	1,604,205	25.75	58,141	1,542,129	26.52
Slovak	52,368	818,207	15.43	38,221	526,028	13.76
Magyar ..	46,030	695,108	15.10	44,261	621,077	14.03
Croatian-Slovenian	35,104	539,327	15.36	44,272	582,503	13.15
Russian ..	3,746	133,576	35.65	5,814	159,251	25.67

Attention must also be called to the fact that a very small number of Japanese immigrants have been denied admission on the ground of being paupers or likely to become public charges. The following table shows the number of Japanese so rejected in 1906 as compared with that of European immigrants debarred for the same reason:

Race or People.	Debarred.	Race or People.	Debarred.
Japanese	84	Croatian and Slovenian....	202
Italian (South).....	2,107	Magyar	129
Italian (North)	127	Polish	385
Irish ..	149	Ruthenian	118
Hebrew ..	1,131	Scandinavian	142
Greek ..	365	Scotch	142
German ..	359	Slovak	153
English	404		

As this table shows, only 84 Japanese were rejected on the ground above mentioned. This is markedly small as compared with 2,107 South Italians and 1,131 Hebrews debarred on that account.

Naturally, only an infinitesimal portion of Japanese immigrants have been afforded aid in hospitals of this country, while European countries have yearly furnished this country with hundreds, even thousands of immigrants relieved in hospitals. In the following table the number of Japanese afforded aid in hospitals in 1905 and 1906 is compared with that of European immigrants so relieved:

Race or People.	1905.			1906.		
	No. Immi- grants.	Relieved in Hospital.	Per Cent.	No. Immi- grants.	Relieved in Hospital.	Per Cent.
Japanese	11,021	2	.01	14,243	1	.007
Italian (South)	186,915	1,290	.69	240,528	1,776	.73
Italian (North)	3,569	158	4.42	46,286	346	.74
Irish ..	54,266	243	.44	40,959	214	.52
Hebrew ..	129,910	1,534	1.18	153,748	2,495	1.62
Greek ..	12,144	70	.57	23,127	189	.81
German ..	82,360	747	.9	86,813	867	.99
Polish ..	102,437	991	.96	96,835	1,000	1.04
Scandinavian ..	62,284	253	.4	58,141	179	.3

We see that out of the entire Japanese immigrants for 1905 and 1906, only 3 became public charges. This rate is almost naught by the side of the enormous number of European immigrants who became public charges in the same two years.

* * * * *

3. *Japanese Immigrants Classified by Age.*

The fact that so few Japanese have become public charges in this country is due perhaps to the presence among them of a very small number of the aged and infant, as well as to their happy financial condition. Almost 98 per cent of Japanese immigrants are in the prime age of 14 to 44, leaving only 2 per cent for the aged and infant.

In the following table we classify the Japanese immigrants for the past five years, giving percentage for each class:

Year.	Total Immi- grants.	Under 14.	Per Cent. of Total.	14 to 40.	Per Cent. of Total.	40 and Over.	Per Cent. of Total.
1902	14,455	630	4.36	13,685	94.67	140	.97
1903	20,041	515	2.56	19,344	96.53	182	.9
1904	14,382	190	1.32	13,832	96.17	360	2.5
1905	11,021	124	1.12	10,588	96.07	309	2.8
1906	14,243	146	1.02	13,821	97.03	276	1.23

In the five years under consideration Japanese immigrants under 14 years amounted to 2.07 per cent on the average, and those of 40 years and over 1.68 per cent. As against such a small number of aged and infant immigrants from Japan, European countries have furnished a considerable number of this class of immigrants, ranging from 33 to 10 per cent. A comparison of Japanese and European immigrants in this respect is shown in the following statement compiled from the Annual Report of the Commissioner-General of Immigration for 1906:

Race or People.	No. Immi- grants.	Under 14 Years.	Per Cent. of Total.	14 to 44 Years.	Per Cent. of Total.	45 and Over.	Per Cent. of Total.
Japanese	14,243	146	1.	13,821	97.	276	1.
Italian (South)	240,528	26,546	11.	202,888	84.	11,094	4.
Italian (North)	46,286	3,993	8.	40,684	87.	1,609	3.
Irish	40,959	1,868	4.	37,232	90.	1,859	4.
Hebrew	153,748	43,620	28.	101,875	66.	8,253	5.
German	86,813	13,076	15.	68,282	78.	5,455	6.
Polish	95,835	8,941	9.	84,860	88.	2,034	2.
Scandinavian	58,141	5,290	9.	50,214	86.	2,637	4.
Slovak	38,221	3,415	8.	33,796	88.	1,010	2.
Magyar	44,261	3,974	8.	38,746	87.	1,541	3.
Croatian and Slovenian	44,272	1,674	3.	41,653	94.	945	2.

The foregoing statements are inducive to the conclusion that the Japanese immigrants are generally of sound physique, capable of engaging themselves in hard work necessary to earn their bread.

* * * * *

4. *Educational Condition of Japanese Immigrants.*

Owing to the fact that the Japanese language is radically different from the English and its kindred languages, it requires a considerable time, and labor, for a Japanese to acquire even an elementary knowledge of English. A compulsory educational system is practiced in Japan as far as primary education is concerned, but in the primary school no foreign language is taught. It is only in the high school that the English language finds its place in the studies, while French and German as well as English are taught in the "higher high school." It is, therefore, natural that many Japanese have no knowledge of English when they first arrive in this country. And yet the rate of illiteracy among Japanese immigrants, while much larger than that among English, Irish, German and Scandinavian immigrants, is considerably smaller than the rate of illiteracy among the South Italians, Ruthenians, Lithuanians, Polish, Croats and Slovenians, etc. The Commissioner-General of Immigration's report for 1904 contains a very instructive chart, showing the rate of illiteracy among immigrants from the different countries. From this chart the following table is prepared, comparing the percentage of illiteracy among the Japanese with those among immigrants from European countries, which furnish this country with more than 20 per cent of illiterates:

	Race or People.	Per Cent. of Illiterates.
	Japanese	22
	Italian (South)	54
	Greek	24
	Portuguese ..	68
German Empire..	{ Polish ..	36
	{ Hebrew ..	23
Austria-Hungary...	{ Hebrew ..	23
	{ Polish ..	36
	{ Slovak ..	28
	{ Ruthenian ..	59
	{ Roumanian ..	32
	{ Bulgarian, Servian, Montenegrin.....	45
	{ Dalmatian, Bosnian, Herzegovinian.....	36
	{ Croatian and Slovenian.....	36
Russian Empire...	{ Hebrew ..	23
	{ Russian ..	26
	{ Lithuanian ..	54
	{ Polish ..	36

According to this table 22 out of every hundred Japanese were illiterate, which formed the smallest rate of illiteracy in the list. The largest rate of illiteracy was among the Portuguese, viz., 69 per cent; the Ruthenians came next, the South Italians and Lithuanians third, the Bulgarians, Servians and Montenegrins fourth, the Polish fifth, and so on.

Part IV.

ECONOMIC QUESTIONS ATTENDANT UPON JAPANESE IMMIGRATION.

1. *Effect of Japanese Immigration Upon the Wages of American Laborers.*

In view of the fact that the Japanese immigrant is charged with lowering the wages of American laborers, we have made a special inquiry into this phase of the question. As the result of the investigation we are able to state that there is no fact that substantiates such a charge. The Japanese immigrants are usually engaged in the kinds of work which the American laborers do not care to take. They do not, as a rule, underbid American labor.

The reports of the Bureaus of Labor of the United States and of the Pacific Coast states conclusively show that the wages of labor on the Pacific Coast have been increasing steadily. Within the past ten years the wages of certain classes of laborers have nearly doubled, while the wages of many laborers have increased 50 per cent in the same period.

The following table shows how the wages of American laborers in the state of Washington have increased

in four different occupations in which most Japanese laborers are engaged:

Occupation.	Year 1897.*	Year 1907.‡
Saw mill laborer (per day)	\$1.25—\$2.00	\$2.60—\$3.50
Shingle mill laborer (per day).....	1.50— 2.00	2.00— 3.25
Farm laborer (per day).....	1.50— 2.00	2.00— 3.00
Farm laborer (per month).....	45.00—55.00	60.00—75.00
Railroad laborers (per day).....	1.33	1.60— 3.00

*Report of the Bureau of Labor, State of Washington.

‡Based upon the wages paid at present.

In certain kinds of work the Japanese get less wages than are paid American laborers, but this does not mean that they sell their labor at a cheap price. On the contrary, they are getting the highest wages they can reasonably ask. In some work they cannot reasonably ask the same wages as are paid white workmen, because in physical strength they are not equal to their white fellow-workingmen. Besides, they are handicapped in many other ways, being unable to speak English or being unfamiliar with the tools they have to handle. And yet, in any kind of work, the Japanese are not getting much smaller wages than are the American laborers.

After a careful investigation, we prepared the following statements, showing the wages of Japanese laborers in the four states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana:

1. *Washington.* In the state of Washington there are at present some 12,894 Japanese, of whom 697 and 288 are independent business men and farmers, respectively. Of the remaining Japanese population we obtain the following figures:

Saw mill laborers and wood cutters.....	2,685
Railroad laborers	2,332
Farm laborers	1,234
Fishery and cannery laborers.....	904
Housework ..	1,204
Hotel, store and restaurant laborers.....	3,014
Miscellaneous laborers	536

The wages of these Japanese laborers are roughly as follows:

Saw mill and wood cutting.....	\$ 1.75—\$ 2.75 (day)
Railroad ..	1.50— 2.50 (day)
Farm labor	1.50— 1.90 (day)*
Fishery and cannery	1.30— 1.65 (day)*
Housework ..	15.00— 50.00 (month)*
Hotel, store and restaurant labor.....	30.00— 70.00 (month)
Hotel and restaurant cook.....	40.00— 70.00 (month)*

*With room and board.

2. *Oregon.* Oregon has some 3,790 Japanese population, of which about 155 and 39 are independent business men and farmers, respectively. The Japanese laborers in this state are roughly classified as follows:

Saw mill laborers and wood cutters.....	260
Railroad laborers	1,830
Farm laborers	220
Fishery and cannery laborers.....	320
Domestics, hotel, store and restaurant laborers..	815
Miners	120

These laborers receive wages at the following rate:

Saw mill and wood cutting	\$ 1.75—\$ 2.50 (day)
Railroad ..	1.50— 2.50 (day)
Farm labor	35.00— 45.00 (month)*
Fishery and cannery.....	120.00— 180.00 (season)*
Housework ..	15.00— 45.00 (month)*
Hotel and store labor.....	38.00— 80.00 (month)
Mining	1.75— 2.75 (day)

*With room and board.

3. *Idaho.* The Japanese population of Idaho is about 1,085, of which some 38 are engaged in independent

business and farming. Of the laboring class there are:

Railroad laborers	730
Farm laborers	800
Domestics	173

Wages received by the Japanese laborers in this state are as follows:

Housework ..	\$15.00—\$45.00 (month)*
Railroad ..	1.50— 2.50 (day)
Farm labor	35.00— 45.00 (month)*

*With room and board.

4. *Montana.* The Japanese population of Montana consists of some 1,920, comprising 13 independent business men and farmers, 1,630 railroad laborers, 139 farm laborers, 63 domestics, and hotel, store and restaurant laborers. The wages paid Japanese laborers in this state are as follows:

Housework, hotel and store labor.....	\$45.00—\$75.00 (month)
Railroad labor	1.60— 2.50 (day)
Farm labor	45.00— 55.00 (month)

That these wages of Japanese laborers are, with a few exceptions, not smaller than the wages of American laborers will be more fully understood, when the above statements are compared with the following table prepared from the report of the Bureau of Labor of Washington, showing the average wages of various kinds of labor in which most Japanese laborers are engaged:

Occupation.	Average Wages.
Section foreman (Great Northern Railroad)....	\$ 1.80—\$ 2.00 (day)
Section hand (Great Northern Railroad).....	1.35— 1.50 (day)
Section foremen (Northern Pacific).....	2.07 (day)
Section hand (Northern Pacific).....	1.47 (day)
Section foremen (Oregon Railway).....	1.91 (day)
Section hands (Oregon Railway).....	1.75 (day)
Section foremen (Columbia & Puget Sound Ry.)	2.16— 2.33 (day)
Section hand (Columbia & Puget Sound Ry.)...	1.30— 1.75 (day)

Section foreman (Washington & Columbia R. R.)	1.93	(day)
Section hand (Washington & Columbia R. R.)...	1.50	(day)
Common labor at mercantile establishment (Seattle)	1.50—	2.00 (day)
Common labor at mercantile establishment (Tacoma)	1.50	(day)
Common labor at mercantile establishment (Spokane) ..	3.40	(day)
Restaurant cooks	45.00—	90.00 (month)
Restaurant waiters	30.00—	60.00 (month)

In this connection, attention must be called to the fact that the phrase “American workingman,” as is commonly used nowadays, covers a multitude of aliens—Italians, Russians, Hebrews, Magyars, Slovaks, Scandinavians and many others.

* * * * *

2. *Effect of Japanese Immigration Upon the Mercantile Business on the Pacific Coast.*

When the state of California began to agitate for the exclusion of the Chinese, even the merchants and dealers of that state countenanced the movement, for the reason that the Chinese immigrant did not consume American goods, importing almost all of his living requirements from his native country. On the other hand, merchants and dealers of the Pacific Coast do not favor the agitation against the Japanese, whose daily requirements, with the exception of a few things, are bought in this country. Indeed, it may be safe to say that the mercantile class on the Pacific Coast is willing to welcome Japanese immigrants.

On this point, the following passage from the “Second Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the State of Oregon” may be read with interest:

“It is shown that of the food and materials consumed by the Chinaman, 60 per cent is foreign and 40 per cent

domestic. On the other hand, the Japanese imports only 11 per cent of his living requirements from his native land, the balance, or 89 per cent, being domestic. The Japanese purchases all of his clothing in the United States, amounting to 15 per cent of his articles of subsistence, while of his food, which represents 85 per cent of his living expenses, 87 per cent is domestic and 13 per cent foreign. Eighty-one per cent of the Chinaman's subsistence is food, of which proportion 75 per cent is foreign and 25 per cent domestic, and the balance, or 19 per cent, is clothing, all domestic.

This statement, while not accurate in details, is sufficient to show how different the mode of living of the Japanese is from that of the Chinese in this country. The Japanese wears American clothes, uses American furniture, subsists on American food, all purchased in this country.

* * * * *

3. *Shortage of Labor on the Pacific Coast.*

It is universally recognized that the development of the Pacific Coast and its adjacent territories is being greatly hindered by insufficient supply of labor. In the summer of 1905 the Portland Chamber of Commerce addressed to President Roosevelt a memorial, stating that the conditions on the Pacific Coast have so radically changed since the enactment of the Chinese exclusion law that it "is now no more in favor of exclusion than the Middle West, the East and the South." This significant document was made public on July 12, 1905. In part it says as follows:

"Vast areas of territory on the Pacific Coast are undeveloped at the present time, and will remain so under present labor conditions; whereas, with the influx of only a tithe of the immigration that is now coming in on the

Atlantic Coast, lands would be cleared and improved, public highways would be built in regions where there is an entire absence of good roads, and railroad construction would take on a new activity. It can not be fairly claimed that the Chinese would interfere with the American laborer in this work, because the work is not now performed by American or any other labor, save in the most limited way. It remains practically undone, and the doing of it would not only fail to affect injuriously the present satisfactory status of the American laborer, but would open wider and higher fields for his activity and improvement, prepared largely by those who, under any circumstances, will always hold second place to him."

That the above statement can be applied to the present condition on the Pacific Coast even with greater weight than two years ago, is beyond question. Almost every day the newspapers on the Pacific Coast report the shortage of labor in that country. According to "The Seattle Times," "the mining camps of the North are keenly feeling the shortage of labor, despite the fact that \$4.50 a day and board is offered by the employer." "The Times" goes on to relate: "So acute is the situation that mining corporations operating in the Southeastern Alaska and the Atlin District are importing Japanese labor. Within a few days, J. M. Ruffner, general manager and treasurer of the North Columbia Gold Mining Company, one of the big concerns operating in the Atlin District, in British Columbia, will take in thirty-five Japanese laborers under contract for the season of 1907. These Japanese will draw from \$4.00 to \$4.50 a day as pipemen, shovel wielders and common laborers, and will be boarded free. As far as known, this is the highest price paid for common labor on the North Pacific Coast

Counting the board the men will earn between \$35.00 and \$40.00 per week. Mr. Ruffner said: 'Last year we were short of men, having about 40 per cent of efficiency in a working crew. Of this 40 per cent not all of the men were steady. We are simply up against it for labor in the mines of the Atlin District, and the work is easy and the wages high. In order to protect ourselves we were forced to hire Japanese.' "

Nor is it only in any one particular kind of work that the shortage in labor is so keenly felt; it is felt on all lines of work. To quote from "The Times":

"Railroad contractors and employment agencies of lines building into the Pacific Northwest have bid against each other at such a rate for workmen that common labor is now quoted here at \$3.00 per day, with promises of steady employment. The Northwest never before saw such a condition as prevails among the railroad camps in Washington as well as Alaska. H. C. Henry, contractor for the St. Paul Railroad from Idaho to the Coast, has perhaps 5,000 unskilled men at work in the grading camps, who are earning a minimum of \$2.50 per day and a maximum of \$3.00 a day. Ax men and woodchoppers get as high as \$3.50 a day, and the board is supplied by contractors who vie with each other in serving the best meals."

It is no exaggeration to say that the views of the Portland Chamber of Commerce above quoted are shared by all the Chambers of Commerce in the Pacific Northwest. Such facts as these will no doubt be carefully considered by those who are directly concerned with the solution of the question of Japanese immigration. When Hon. Oscar S. Straus, Secretary of Commerce and Labor, was in Seattle on the occasion of his tour of the Pacific

Coast and Hawaii last summer, he made the following significant remark to a representative of "The Post-Intelligencer":

"In the last three months the number of immigrants coming into the United States through all parts has increased ten per cent over the number coming in the corresponding period during 1906. During the same period the immigration from Japan decreased. The kind of Japanese that are now coming to this country are the most desirable class. * * * It means that the tide of immigration is turning toward Canada. They have a wonderful country up there, and the immigrants are beginning to find it out. I believe that Canada is the coming country. That is going to be one of the big problems you men on the Pacific Coast will have to face and will have to solve. The laborers will leave your country and flock to Canada."

Part V.

ARE JAPANESE IMMIGRANTS UNASSIMILABLE?

This is certainly a very embarrassing question, which we do not feel at liberty to discuss. Argument for and against the Japanese on this point is naturally apt to end in mere generalizations, because there can exist no statistical data or tangible facts upon which to base such argument, so long as the Japanese is not admitted into American citizenship with the full opportunity of proving themselves to be faithful members of the Republic. Yet there are many instances which go to show that the Japanese, denied the rights of citizenship as they are, make desirable citizens, eager to imbibe American ideals and usages, and willing to join hands with their American neighbors in whatsoever that is aimed to promote the welfare of this commonwealth. But were we to set forth such instances and endeavor to defend our cause, we should necessarily be accused of immodesty. We must, therefore, confine ourselves to giving the statements of a few representative Americans, who are in a position to speak with authority on this question.

When Senator Perkins, of California, expressed the belief that "the inherent Japanese traits of patriotic impulses will make them a foreign element in any country

to which they may migrate," "The Pacific" (Honolulu), commenting upon the Senator's opinion, said as follows:

"The treatment of the Japanese by our nation has not been such as to encourage expatriation on their part. The few that have sought naturalization have been refused. Senator Perkins ought to be willing to give them an opportunity to expatriate themselves and to show, as other nationalities have had opportunity to show, that they can be as loyal to their adopted as to their native country. Certainly, so long as that has not been done, there is no justification for any dogmatic assertion that expatriation is a thing impossible to a Japanese. There was a time when it was claimed that the Germans, who came here in great numbers after the revolution of 1848, would subvert the principles of American government. And in the earlier years of our national history there were ever those who were fearful that many of those whom we received to citizenship would in a crisis prefer their native to their adopted country. Time has shown all these things to have been bugbears."

Dr. Doremus Scudder, who has had many years of experience in Hawaii, writing to "The Pacific," says as follows:

"President Roosevelt is right. He has proved himself a seer in suggesting naturalization for Japanese. The next step will be to grant this to all men upon precisely equal terms. This does not mean that we should not safeguard our citizenship. Japan will have done us an incalculable benefit, if, as an outcome of this controversy, our Government be led to require that no alien shall be naturalized before passing an English examination in American civics under the auspices of a board constituted somewhat after the manner of our Board of Civil Service Commissioners."

In refutation of the hackneyed assertion that Hawaii is today a Japanese colony, Dr. Scudder says:

“No possible statement could be further from the truth. Numerically, the people of this race predominate, but the one noticeable feature of the life of these islands is the victory of American ideals over those of Asia here. Instead of Hawaii being Japanese in civilization, it is more truly American than San Francisco has been since the era of pure government immediately succeeding the rise of the vigilantes and preceding the days of fierce anti-Chinese agitation. The test of a civilization is not found in the clothes worn or in skin color, but in the spirit which moves forward toward the realization of higher ideals.”

Governor Carter, of Hawaii, evidently shares the views of “The Pacific” and Dr. Scudder when he says:

“Fifty per cent of the population of the Hawaiian group is Japanese, and we have never had the slightest trouble with them. They are treated by the residents the same as other people, and that is practically all there is to it. They make good citizens, are unobstrusive, and never bother anybody who does not bother them.”

In an editorial entitled “Facts About Japanese Immigration” appearing in a recent issue of “The New York Post,” we find the following passage:

“The argument which has been made against Chinese immigration has little bearing when applied to the Japanese. When the latter arrive in this country, they speedily adopt American methods of dress and living. As a rule, the Japanese do not colonize in a city even to the extent that the Italians, Russians, Germans and Irish do; but instead, endeavor to establish independent homes of their own for the purpose of bringing themselves quickly into touch with the native population. For this reason the Japanese immigrant, after a year in this country, in his acquaintance with the English language and in his knowledge of American usages is ordinarily much more nearly in harmony with our social system than the aver-

age immigrant from Hungary or Russia, after a similar experience of American living.”

In his address before the Men’s Club of Trinity Parish Church of Seattle, on the evening of October 20th, Mayor Moore, of that city, incidentally paid tribute to the Japanese residents of the municipality. Among other things he said:

“We have had as little trouble, if not less, in this administration with the Japanese as with our own people. They have not only obeyed the laws of the community, but have given assistance in enforcing the laws.* * * In fact we have in our community no more intelligent citizenship than the Japanese. I must admit that in my administration we have had more difficulty with the white element than with the foreign.”

It will be alike impossible and unnecessary to cite all such statements; suffice it to say that these are only a few of a great number of similar examples.

APPENDIX

I.

Resolution of Seattle Chamber of Commerce, Adopted March 20, 1907.

According to the report of the Associated Press dispatches from Washington, the settlement of the question involving the right of Japanese children to attend the public school of San Francisco is to draw after it the negotiation of a new immigration treaty with Japan.

It is the opinion of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce that a majority of the people of the Pacific Coast are not in favor of any immigration law that will treat the people of Japan differently from the way in which we treat the people of any European country. We recognize that the United States and the Empire of Japan are bound together by the ties of trade, commerce and old friendship, which in the past have proved of great advantage to both countries, and if preserved, contain a sure pledge of still greater benefits for the future. We believe that any immigration treaty which would discriminate against Japan by denying to the people of the country ordinary rights or privileges granted to the people of other civilized nations, would be uncalled for and would be detrimental to the trade and commerce of the Pacific Coast, and, by checking the growth, development and prosperity of this section, would tend directly to narrow the field of employment for our own people and decrease the demand for our own labor. It would injure the Pacific Coast farmers by barring the way to a large and profitable market for flour and other food stuffs. It would strike directly at those manufacturing industries throughout the country which are now supplying steel rails, machinery, food and other appliances for the development of Japan, Corea and Man-

churia. It would practically close Japan, Corea and Manchuria to American capital and to the use of American skilled labor that would otherwise be largely employed in the development of the resources of those countries.

Moreover, as the enforcement of the terms of any new immigration treaty putting Japan on a different footing from that of other nations or any law or regulation made pursuant to such a treaty, would necessarily be in the hands of bureau officials, its administration would, in our opinion, be almost certain to sow the seeds of disagreements, dissension and strife between the two countries.

Therefore, be it resolved that in the opinion of this Chamber it would be against the best interests of the Pacific Coast and of the whole country to conclude any treaty or enact any law, the effect of which would be to treat the people of Japan in a manner different from the treatment accorded to the people of other civilized powers.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the President and the Secretary of State.

II.

Resolution of Tacoma Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade, Adopted April 29, 1907.

The commercial interests of the Pacific Coast demand a close friendship with the commercial interests of Japan and the trans-Pacific countries. Anything, which tends to separate these interests or engender the spirit of antagonism toward a closer union of our commercial relation with these countries, should be viewed with disfavor and subjected to searching criticism by the commercial bodies of the Western Coast.

This is particularly true of Tacoma, whose friendly attitude to Japan and Japanese interests is evidenced by her constantly increasing trade with the ports of that country.

The recent agitation against the attendance of Japanese children to the public schools of San Francisco seems to threaten a new immigration treaty with Japan,

which shall contain some stringent measures tending to place Japanese immigration on a different basis from that of other foreign countries.

There seems no good reason why such a treaty should be contemplated. The United States has never suffered from Japanese immigration, and the opportunities for the development of a large and mutually profitable trade between our country and Japan demand that no unreasonable prejudice be permitted to establish an unfriendly attitude on Japan's part toward the United States or her commercial prestige in Japanese waters.

Therefore the Board of Trustees of the Tacoma Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade hereby resolves:

That there is no occasion for the formulating of any immigration treaty with Japan, which shall discriminate against the Japanese and place them upon any different footing than are the people of any European country. The friendly relations between the two countries should be preserved and increased. Any disruption of those friendly relations would work to the serious detriment of the commercial interests of the Pacific Coast and would greatly check the growth and prosperity of this section of our country, thus narrowing our markets and curtailing the field of our laboring people, decreasing the demand for labor and lowering the rate of wages.

It would curtail the market for our wheat and flour, and have a direct and damaging effect upon the farming interests of the entire West. It would have a far-reaching effect upon the shipments of steel rails, machinery and other manufactured materials by practically closing the ports of Japan, Corea and Manchuria to these shipments, and the employment of American capital and skilled labor in the wide field now offered by Japan for American enterprise and ingenuity.

Furthermore, the inauguration and enforcement of any such treaty discriminating against the Japanese must of necessity be left with Bureau officials, unfamiliar with the commercial relation now existing between the two countries, and unable through ignorance of these

conditions to treat either Japanese or Pacific Coast interests fairly and wisely.

Therefore, in the opinion of this board, no interests of the Pacific Coast or of the United States at large will be served by any such treaty, while the commercial interests will be greatly and permanently damaged by any treaty action, which breaks the feeling of good will and mutual respect now prevailing between the two countries, and which is resulting in a large and mutually profitable trade between them.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the President and the Secretary of State.

III.

Resolution of Portland Chamber of Commerce, Adopted April 16, 1907.

According to the report of the Associated Press dispatches from Washington, the settlement of the question involving the right of Japanese children to attend the public school of San Francisco is to draw after it the negotiation of a new immigration treaty with Japan.

It is the opinion of the Portland Chamber of Commerce that a majority of the people of the Pacific Coast are not in favor of any immigration law that will treat the people of Japan differently from the way in which we treat the people of any European country. We recognize that the United States and the Empire of Japan are bound together by the ties of trade, commerce and old friendship, which in the past have proved of great advantage to both countries, and if preserved, contain a sure pledge of still greater benefits for the future. We believe that any immigration treaty, which would discriminate against Japan by denying to the people of that country ordinary rights or privileges granted to the people of other civilized nations, would be uncalled for and would be detrimental to the trade and commerce of the Pacific Coast, and by checking the growth, development and prosperity of this section, would tend directly

to narrow the field of employment for our own people and decrease the demand for our own labor. It would injure the Pacific Coast farmers by barring the way to a large and profitable market for flour and other food-stuffs. It would strike directly at those manufacturing industries throughout the country, which are now supplying steel rails, machinery, food and other appliances for the development of Japan, Corea and Manchuria. It would practically close Japan, Corea and Manchuria to American capital and to the use of American skilled labor that would otherwise be largely employed in the development of the resources of these countries.

Moreover, as the enforcement of the terms of any new immigration treaty putting Japan on a different footing from that of other nations or any law or regulation made pursuant to such a treaty, would necessarily be in the hands of bureau officials, its administration would, in our opinion, be almost certain to sow the seeds of disagreements, dissension and strife between the two countries.

Therefore, be it resolved, that in the opinion of this Chamber it would be against the best interests of the Pacific Coast and of the whole country to conclude any treaty or enact any law, the effect of which would be to treat the people of Japan in a manner different from the treatment accorded to the people of other civilized powers.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the President and Secretary of State.

IV.

A Letter Addressed by San Francisco Chamber of Commerce to Japanese Association of America.

San Francisco, Cal., July 11th, 1907.

Japanese Association of America,
San Francisco, California.

Gentlemen:

The Trustees of the Chamber of Commerce beg to

acknowledge your very courteous letter of the 8th inst. and to reciprocate its kind expressions.

We wish further to express our appreciation of the resolution you have passed, correcting the statement made by the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, in which it appeared that the Japanese children are denied equal privilege in the public schools of San Francisco. Such frank expressions at this time, when there may be causes for irritation, are magnanimous and increase the respect and confidence of all fair-minded people.

It is our conviction that there should be no unreasonable restrictions placed upon the immigration of Japanese to this country, not merely because of the commercial benefits mutually derived, but because of the traditional friendship, which has existed between our country and the Empire of Japan, and which should be an important factor in the development of all countries bordering on the Pacific Ocean.

The Trustees are therefore sending a copy of this letter to the President and Secretary of State, hoping thereby to assure the authorities of the friendly disposition of our merchants to the Japanese people, and at the same time, bring about a better understanding and a more friendly feeling with the Japanese residents of our city.

With assurances of esteem, we remain,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) C. H. BENTLEY,
President.

V.

*Resolution of Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce,
Adopted February 4, 1907.*

Resolved, That the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce believes that the public sentiment of the State of California, and especially of

Southern California, upon the question of the exclusion of the Japanese from the general public school system of the State, has been to some extent misrepresented and is largely misunderstood; and as representing the commercial and business interests of the second city of the State, and in view of the national importance which the question has assumed, the Board feels impelled to correct such misapprehension, so far as it is in its power to do.

In the first place it would seem that the question is one of principle, or of sentiment, or of practical politics, rather than of immediate vital importance so far as it affects the welfare of the children of our public schools.

The Board is reliably informed that when the question was first agitated, the total number of Japanese in the public schools of San Francisco was 93, of which 28 were girls and 68 boys. Thirty-four of the boys were under sixteen years of age; of the thirty-one who were sixteen years and older only six were in the primary schools, the eldest being nineteen years old. There are about the same number of Japanese in the public schools of Los Angeles, and it is reported on good authority, both from San Francisco and Los Angeles, that no complaint of bad conduct on the part of Japanese scholars has ever come to the knowledge of the School Superintendent of either of these cities.

This Board is convinced that the sentiment of the whole State is unanimously against the mingling in the primary grades of our schools of adults and adolescents of whatever race or nationality, with the younger children.

Upon the main question, whatever may be the diversity of opinion upon the constitutional and legal phases, this Board is assured that the general trend of public opinion in Southern California is decidedly adverse to any discrimination against the Japanese as a people in matters of public school privileges, and they believe that this opinion is based upon considerations of equity and justice, and is held altogether independently of any attitude which the Japanese government has assumed or may assume in regard to the question.

VI.

*A Joint Appeal Addressed by Chambers of Commerce of
Tokyo, Kyoto, Yokohama, Osaka and Kobe, to the
Principal Chambers of Commerce in the
United States Dated June 29, 1907.*

It has always been a matter of profound satisfaction to the people of Japan to witness the constant growth of cordial relations between our two countries and of our community interests in the fields of trade and commerce, but since last year the people in a section of your country have unfortunately acted in a manner calculated to prejudice the legitimate rights of the Japanese, who have been frequently subjected to unjust treatment at the hands of a lawless element prevailing there.

The right of education has been denied them; their houses have repeatedly been attacked and their property destroyed without the least cause or provocation, with the result that not only have the treaty rights of the Japanese been wantonly disregarded, but their persons and property also have been exposed to serious danger.

It is to be extremely regretted that such unfortunate incidents should be allowed to occur so frequently, as it is feared that unless they are speedily stopped, the ill-feeling our countrymen are now prone to harbor will be heightened, and that the attitude of the people of a single section of America may eventually have an unhappy effect upon the development of the commercial relations between the two nations, for while the United States is a good customer for our natural products, Japan is also increasing her demand for American goods, and promises to become one of the most important markets for your ever-expanding and prosperous industries.

Should the progress of trade and commerce between the two countries become obstructed as a result of the unwarrantable action of a small section of your population, the loss sustained by the two countries would be incalculable. We, therefore, venture to address you and express our views on the situation, confident in the hope

that they will be shared by you, and that you will, considering the matter on the right principles of national intercourse and the mutual advantages of trade relations, do your best to speedily eliminate the present causes of discord and to insure our common prosperity for the future.

Yours respectfully,

B. NAKANO,
President of Tokyo Chamber of Commerce.

M. DOI,
President of Osaka Chamber of Commerce.

J. NISHIMURA,
President of Kyoto Chamber of Commerce.

K. ONO,
President of Yokohama Chamber of Commerce.

T. KISHIMOTO,
President of Kobe Chamber of Commerce.

VII.

Reply of Seattle Chamber of Commerce to the Same.

To The

Tokyo Chamber of Commerce,
Osaka Chamber of Commerce,
Kyoto Chamber of Commerce,
Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, and
Kobe Chamber of Commerce:

Sirs:

We have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 29th in relation to certain disturbances in San Francisco affecting some of your countrymen dwelling there.

The disturbances mentioned in your letter are purely local. They have been greatly magnified and we should infer from your letter that the reports of the occurrences which reached Japan are out of all proportion to the actual facts. This is usual in such cases. Reports from a long distance are generally apt to magnify the event

many times. Nevertheless all good citizens here deplore all such disturbances, however small. We believe that you will find, upon inquiry amongst your fellow countrymen here, that in Seattle the Japanese are treated with as much consideration as the people of any other country. On the other hand, it gives us pleasure to be able to say that we have always found them to be industrious, law-abiding and loyal residents of the Republic, and in Seattle we have uniformly treated them accordingly. We beg to enclose herewith a resolution of this Chamber of Commerce which was adopted before your letter was written and which clearly shows our attitude toward your countrymen.

In the future, as in the past, Seattle will always be found standing for justice and fair play for the Japanese as well as for all other nationalities within her borders. For more than ten years Seattle has been the American home port of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, the great Japanese Steamship Company. This company has been a pioneer in opening up a profitable and friendly trade between the two countries. Commerce in our day is the most powerful and persuasive ambassador of peace and good will among nations. It brings the people of the world closer together, removes prejudices and promotes national friendships. Not the least important mission of Chambers of Commerce—the spokesmen, so to speak, of the commerce of their respective countries—is to co-operate with one another in smoothing away and composing the differences that inevitably arise from time to time between the peoples of different countries, as between communities in the same country. In this spirit, and with this end in view, the Seattle Chamber of Commerce extends to the Chambers of Commerce of the cities of Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, Yokohama and Kobe its most friendly consideration and trusts that the good relations which have existed so long between our cities as between our two countries, and with such manifest advantage to both, may continue unbroken into the far future.

Yours very respectfully,

C. B. YANDELL,
July 30, 1907. Secretary.

JOHN H. McGRAW,
President.

VIII.

Reply of Chambers of Commerce of Tokyo, Kyoto, Yokohama, Osaka and Kobe to the Above.

Tokyo, Japan, Oct. 15, 1907.

Seattle Chamber of Commerce,
Washington, U. S. A.

Gentlemen:

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 30th July, in reply to ours of June 29th last. It is a source of profound satisfaction to note that our appeal has been received with so high sense of justice and equity, and that you are prepared to direct your efforts for the maintenance of the relations of perfect understanding between the United States and Japan and for the promotion of the common interests by which the two nations are closely united. We are convinced that the friendly assurances contained in your letter under acknowledgement have produced the best impression in the public mind in this country. In thanking you sincerely for such a frank and candid exposition of your views, we venture to express the hope that hereafter a similar exchange of views and mutual co-operation may be had between our respective Chambers of Commerce with reference to matters affecting the common interests of both countries, as occasion presents itself, with a view to safeguard those interests and thereby to assure the relations of good correspondence between the two nations.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) B. NAKANO,
President of Tokyo Chamber of Commerce.
M. DOI,
President of Osaka Chamber of Commerce.
J. NISHIMURA,
President of Kyoto Chamber of Commerce.
K. ONO,
President of Yokohama Chamber of Commerce.
T. KISHIMOTO,
President of Kobe Chamber of Commerce.

IX.

*A Joint Appeal Addressed by the Chambers of Commerce
of Tokyo, Kyoto, Yokohama, Osaka and Kobe,
to President Roosevelt, June 29, 1907.*

We have watched with profound satisfaction the growing strength of the bonds of traditional friendship between America and Japan, coupled with the steady progress of the commerce between the two nations. It is, therefore, a source of deep regret and concern to learn of the actions frequently reported since last year of a section of the community in San Francisco against Japanese residents there, whose persons and property have thus been exposed to serious danger. While highly appreciating your unremitting efforts in the cause of justice, we humbly think that if such abuses are allowed to continue, the development of commerce, based upon the friendly relations of the two nations, may be eventually retarded.

We, the undersigned, representatives of Chambers of Commerce, taking special interest in the promotion of our mutual economic relations, are unable to remain silent spectators of this state of affairs. We accordingly have addressed the principal Chambers of Commerce in America, inviting them to exert their best efforts for the amelioration of the situation, relying at the same time upon your personality and wisdom for a speedy and satisfactory solution of existing difficulties, and we respectfully appeal to you for your friendly spirit.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed)	B. NAKANO,
President of Tokyo	Chamber of Commerce.
	M. DOI,
President of Osaka	Chamber of Commerce.
	J. NISHIMURA,
President of Kyoto	Chamber of Commerce.
	K. ONO,
President of Yokohama	Chamber of Commerce.
	T. KISHIMOTO,
President of Kobe	Chamber of Commerce.

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